

Whereas, it is with great pride and sincere admiration that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives honor the meritorious endeavors of the Reverend Norman Rotert, recipient of the 2004 American Citizen Award from Kansas City's Southtown Foundation; and

Whereas, the Reverend Norman Rotert was recognized for his unprecedented record of civic accomplishment during the Southtown Council's Annual American Citizen Award dinner held on December 10, 2004, at Muehlebach Hotel; and

Whereas, the Reverend Norman Rotert was honored for his consistent involvement in civil-rights neighborhood-development projects and the renovation of Visitation Catholic Church; and

Whereas, in the 1970s, when the Reverend Norman Rotert was pastor of St. Therese Little Flower, white flight, red lining, and mismanaged government-housing programs led to a growing number of vacant and dilapidated homes; and

Whereas, the Reverend Norman Rotert formed the Blue Hills Homes Association which won a contract to manage Department of Housing and Urban Development houses, at which time, Father Rotert was able to hire a staff which had the expertise to get the contract to deliver federal Title I and Title II funds to private and parochial schools; and

Whereas, the Blue Hills Homes Association (now known as Blue Hills Community Services) played an instrumental role in the formation of the Southtown Council, which was begun by a small group of business people who came together to fix a problem on east 63rd Street in 1982; and

Whereas, the Southtown Council works to strengthen existing businesses and attract new ones, acts as a catalyst to initiate corrective actions where needed, and continuously strengthens the presence of Southtown in the Kansas City area through monthly newsletters, annual business meetings, monthly luncheons, and a myriad of other community-based activities:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously in extending our most hearty congratulations and sincere appreciation to the Reverend Norman Rotert for his unparalleled service to the citizens of Kansas City; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution the Reverend Norman Rotert.

Offered by _____
Representative Marsha Campbell
District No. 39

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4743, adopted January 3, 2005.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker